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Neutral Nation Bloc Key To Free World Survival

The world is divided into three parts and survival of the free world will depend on the course of the neutral bloc. If this bloc falls to communism, the free world is in peril of losing its freedom.

That is a summary of high U.S. official deliberation on the present international situation, as offered last night by Longview Editor and Publisher John M. McClelland Jr. He was the quiet speaker at the annual spring meeting of the Allied Daily Newspapers of Washington, in Chinook Motel and Tower at Yakima.

Ends Today

Approximately 50 publishers and newspaper executives are attending the two-day meet, scheduled to end today with a luncheon in Chinook Tower. Featured speaker will be Charles F. Luce, administrator of the Bonneville Power Administration.

McClelland, who participated in the April 24-25 foreign policy briefing session held in Washington, D.C., by the Kennedy Administration, said it became apparent during the session that "our leaders are extremely worried" concerning international problems.

He said the briefing was held with the hope that more public understanding and backing for the administration might be achieved "in the crises that surely lie ahead."

Story Untold

McClelland outlined the world trouble spots, as told to the 400 to 500 newspaper executives who attended the Washington, D.C., meet, and said of the Cuban area:

"The full story of Cuba remains to be revealed. The Central Intelligence Agency knows far much of the blame but, certainly, Cent-

ral Intelligence had Kennedy and the military posted about Cuban military might. Why then would Kennedy and the Pentagon assume that such a weak invasion force would have a chance against the might of Soviet tanks and planes?"

Avoid Colonialism

He said the United States and its allies must avoid any hint of colonialism in dealing with the new African nations and must go to the aid of Latin American nations struggling for economic survival.

McClelland said the free world's hope lies in devising ways to help backward nations attain a better life, but not at the high cost communism imposes.

"The role of the press in these matters is plain," said McClelland. "In the interest of national survival, if nothing else it is our duty to change our concepts about foreign news and events."

once and for all, that the people of Abetops or Walls-Walls or Longview are as much concerned about what is going on worldwide as they are within the city limits."

New Concepts

He said this policy may require some changed concepts on publishers and editor's desks. He said many such executives have been thinking of their communities as too small and remote to be concerned with world problems.

"Maybe this nation wouldn't be in so much trouble today if so many newspapers hadn't operated with this concept 30 years ago, 20 years ago, 10 years ago and even right up to the present," McClelland said.

'Spot' Awards

Ted Robertson, publisher of the Yakima Daily, told the group of his recent tour through the Middle East. Seven "Spot" awards were presented to different publishers. Frank Blotman, Seattle Times, was presented "The Governor's Award for Excellence in Political Writing."

During the luncheon address Thursday, Louis Bruno, state superintendent of public instruction, advocated a longer school year, as a means of bringing excellence to public education.

Gifted, Handicapped

Gifted children could utilize a longer year to progress through school more quickly, according to Bruno, and special classes for the handicapped could be taught then.

"We feel we must work toward excellence in education," stated the speaker. "In this excellence, a longer school year must be closely examined."

Bruno said many schools already are moving in the direction of a longer school year, which should not be merely a continu-

tion of the subjects taught in regular classes.

Basic Files

In the teaching of a child, said the superintendent, basic subjects should come first, but there should be time for other subjects. "We, as teachers, are deeply concerned that our children know the three R's," he said.

Such subjects as economic education are important also, said Bruno.

"We ought to have a deeper appreciation of the American economic system. We intend to work with labor and management in conducting workshops and planning bulletins that help to interpret the American way of life to our children."

Research Center

The superintendent also said a research center in his office is being developed to study high school dropouts, team teaching and honor programs. It will also disseminate information concerning existing good education programs.

In his opening words, the state official thanked the newspaper executives for "fine and fair" coverage of public education, saying the press has pointed out its strengths and probed its weaknesses.

On another topic, Bruno said his new education budget will allow smaller classes.

Color Slides Shown

A color-slide presentation, "The Story of the Yakima Dailies" was presented in the Thursday forenoon program. Alex Ottaviano, business manager of the Bremerton Sun, discussed "Personal Property Assessment Policy in Washington."

John E. Watkins, controller of the Wenatchee Daily World, gave a progress report, "Hour-Per-Page Cost Study," and Paul P. Ashley, Seattle, attorney, brought the group up to date with his talk on "Exemplary Damages and the Law of Libel."

Paper companies of the Northwest were hosts at a social hour preceding the luncheon.